(b) if so, the locations thereof, particularly in Karnataka and the objective of setting up FM station throughout the country;

(c) the terms and conditions of the agreement signed between the private parties and the Central Government in this regard; and

(d) the estimated revenue likely to be earned from these FM radio stations?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) About 400 stations have been indentified, which are envisaged to be utilized for expansion of private FM radio in phase-II.

(b) In Karnataka, Bangalore, Hubli, Mangalore, Belgaum, Gulbarga, Mysore and Davangere are envisaged for expansion of private FM radio. In the year 1999, the Government had allowed the setting up of private FM radio stations at 40 locations (Phase-I) with the following main objectives:-

(i) Expansion of FM network;

(ii) Radio programmes with superior quality of fidelity and reception and generation of programmes with local content and relevance;

(iii) Fillip to broadcasting and encouragement of new talent;

(iv) Generation of employment;

(v) Generation of revenue for the Government.

(c) and (d) The policy for expansion of private FM radio in phase-II is yet to be finalized.

Advertisement on the Gandhi's Birth Anniversary

392. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is his Ministry's reaction to the advertisement issued by it on the Gandhi's Birth Anniversary quoting him as saying, "I would rather have India resort to arms in order to defend her honour than remain a helpless to her own dishonour"; and

(b) what message does his Ministry intends to convey through this advertisement?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The quote used in the advertisement issued

by this Ministry on the Gandhiji's Birth Anniversary 2003 was taken from an article entitled 'The Doctrine of the Sword' written by Mahatma Gandhi in 'Young India' on August 11, 1920. The quote though factually correct, should have been related to its true context.

Upgrading A.I.R. stations in Uttaranchal

†393. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a few A.I.R. stations are proposed to be upgraded during the ongoing Five Year Plan itself;

(b) whether Uttaranchal based Almora and Srinagar stations of A.I.R. are also proposed to be upgraded during the Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the details of the alternative steps being taken to make the broadcast effective in this boardering State?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) At present, there is no proposal to upgrade 1 KW MW station at Almora. However, a Captive Earth Station is proposed to be set up in Almora during Tenth Plan. There is no radio station at Srinagar in Uttaranchal.

(d) In order to further strengthen the radio coverage in Uttaranchal, the following new radio stations have been proposed in Tenth Five Year Plan:-

Dehradun—10 KW FM
Haldwani—10 KW FM
Bageshwar—5 KW FM
Champawat—1 KW FM
Gairsain—1KW FM
Rudraprayag—1 KW FM
New Tehri—1 KW FM
Dharchula—1 KW MW

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.